MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Preparing World-Class Students

Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D.
Interim State Superintendent of Schools

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TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Bernard J. Sadusky, Ed.D. BJS

DATE: June 26, 2012

SUBJECT: COMAR 13A.12.03.02, School Counselor (Amend)
APPROVAL

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this item is to request your approval of proposed changes to COMAR13A.12.03.02, School Counselor, and to present an analysis of comments received regarding this regulation.

BACKGROUND:

In December, 2011, Mr. Michael Linkins and Dr. Richard Scott, Division of Student, Family, and School Support, made an initial presentation to the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board (PSTEB) regarding proposed changes to COMAR13A.12.03.02, School Counselor. The proposed changes aligned the degree requirement with the recently adopted change from "Guidance" to "School" Counselor. At a subsequent meeting in February, 2012, additional changes were proposed which included providing an option to allow experienced School Counselors who held a valid, professional certificate in another state and presented three years of satisfactory, school counseling experience within the past seven years to seek initial MD certification. Mr. Linkins and Dr. Scott presented favorable feedback regarding the proposed changes from the Supervisors of School Counselors.

A copy of the proposed regulatory changes as it appeared in the *Maryland Register* on May 4, 2012 is attached; also attached is an analysis of comments received regarding the proposed changes. The proposed regulation does not have any economic impact nor does it have any impact on individuals with disabilities. There is no corresponding federal standard for this proposed action.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Proposed changes to the current regulation provide additional changes in light of the recently-adopted change in name from "Guidance" to "School" Counselor and greater hiring flexibility for local school systems. The proposed changes include adding a second degree option to the existing degree requirement and allowing an experienced School Counselor with the requisite credentials and school counseling experience to obtain initial MD certification.

ACTION:

I am requesting approval of proposed changes to COMAR 13A.12.03.02, School Counselors.

BJS: jes

Attachments

C. If a licensee fails [illegible] in whole or in part, a [illegible] imposed by the Board under this ch[illegible] the Board may n[illegible]ore, reinstate, or renew a license until the pe[illegible] has been p[illegible]full.

D. In its discretion, the Boa[illegible]y ref[illegible] cases of delinquent payment to the Central Collection[illegible] Department of Budget and Management to institute and [illegible]n proceedings to ensure prompt payment.

E. The Board shall pay [illegible]onies co[illegible]d under this chapter into the State's General [illegible]

JOSHUA M. S[illegible]TEIN, M.D.
Secretary of Health and [illegible]al Hygiene

Title 13A
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subtitle 12 CERTIFICATIOIN

13A.12.03 Specialists

Authority: Education Article, §§2-205, 2-303(g), 6-101—6-104, and 6-701—6-706; Health Occupations Article, §2-301; Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[12-106-P]

The Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board proposes to amend Regulation .02 under **COMAR 13A.12.03 Specialists**. This action was considered at the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board meeting held on February 2, 2012.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to add a second degree option entitled "school counseling" to the existing degree option of guidance and counseling and provide a fifth option for initial certification for experienced counselors.

Comparison to Federal Standards

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to Jean Satterfield, Assistant State Superintendent, Certification and Accreditation, Maryland State Department of Education, 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201, or call 410-767-0385, or email to jsatterfield@msde.state.md.us, or fax to 410-333-8963. Comments will be accepted through June 4, 2012. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

Open Meeting

Final action on the proposal will be considered by the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board during a public meeting to be held on July 5, 2012, at 200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

.02 School Counselor.

The requirements for certification as a school counselor are:

A. Option I. The applicant shall have:

(1) A master's degree in school *counseling or* guidance and counseling from an IHE;

(2) — (3) (text unchanged)

B. Option II. The applicant shall have:

(1) A master's degree in school *counseling or* guidance and counseling in a program approved using State-approved standards under COMAR 13A.07.06.01; and

(2) 2 years of satisfactory performance as a teacher or *school* counselor, or 500 clock hours in a supervised practicum in school [guidance and] counseling.

C. Option III. The applicant shall have a master's degree in *school counseling or* school guidance and counseling from a program approved by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).

D. Option IV. The applicant shall have:

(1) A master's degree in school *counseling or* guidance and counseling from an approved program under the Interstate Contract agreement for support services; and

(2) 2 years of satisfactory performance as a teacher or *school* counselor.

E. Option V. The applicant shall:

(1) Have a master's degree from an IHE; and

(2) Present a valid, professional certificate from another state and verification of at least 27 months of satisfactory performance as a school counselor during the past 7 years on the basis of which application is being made for a comparable Maryland certificate.

BERNARD J. SADUSKY, Ed.D.
Interim State Superintendent of Schools

Title 14
INDEPEN[illegible]ENT AGENC[illegible]S

Subtitle [illegible] WORKERS'
COMPENSAT[illegible]N COMM[illegible]SION

14.09.01 Procedural R[illegible]lations

Authority: Health-General Article, §[illegible]3; Labor [illegible]Employment Article, §§9-307, 9-309, 9-310.2, 9-314, 9-404, [illegible]05, 9-[illegible]9-603, 9-625, 9-635, 9-689, 9-701, 9-709, 9-710, 9-711, 9-721, [illegible], [illegible], and 9-6A-07; Insurance Article, §§19-405 and 19-406; State [illegible]ment Article, §10-1103; Annotated Code o[illegible]land

Notice of Propo[illegible]tion

[12-10[illegible]

The Workers' Compensation [illegible]mmi[illegible]n proposes to amend Regulation .20 under **COMAR [illegible].09.01 [illegible]cedural Regulations**. This action was considered at [illegible] open mee[illegible] held on March 22, 2012, notice of which was gi[illegible] by publicat[illegible]n 39:4 Md. R. 358 (February 24, 2012) pursu[illegible] to State Gov[illegible]ent Article §10-506(c), Annotated Code of [illegible]ryland.

S[illegible]ment of Purpose

The purpose of this [illegible]on is to establish procedu[illegible]r scheduling independent medical e[illegible]minations, to delineate a co[illegible] employee's obligation to coop[illegible]e in the examination an[illegible] establish consequences for f[illegible]g or refusing to appear and co[illegible]rate in the examination.

ATTACHMENT 2

Analysis of Written Testimony Concerning
Proposed Changes to COMAR13A.12.03.02,
School Counselor
Presented to the Maryland State Board of Education
June 26-27-2012

Writer:	Anthony J. Trotta, Esq., Washington County Public Schools
Comment:	The degree requirement for the respective options should be consistent; the degree requirements should read "school counseling" and "school guidance and counseling" throughout the regulation.
Staff Response:	Staff concurs; this will add clarity to the language.
Comment:	Option V lacks any specific training in education /school counseling. Washington County Public Schools suggests at least nine credits from an accredited institution in school counseling specific areas such as program planning and service delivery, social and cultural diversity issues, and counseling interventions.
Staff Response:	Staff does not concur. Option V acknowledges satisfactory experience in the performance of the responsibilities as a School Counselor. Moreover, a review of the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) state certification requirements indicates that states which do not require a specific Master's degree in school counseling or school guidance and counseling require alternative counselor preparation requirements of which the recommended course would be foundational. Specifying specific course work may also be problematic since colleges and universities do not have standard terminology for course titles.
Comment:	The purpose of Option V is to allow an experienced professional route to School Counselor certification. The wording should state" present a valid, professional certificate *in school counseling* from another state."
Staff Response:	Staff does not concur. The language used in this regulation is consistent language used throughout each regulation which allows for an experienced professional route to initial certification.